the Department done to get the stay order vacated? The second part of my question is as to what the Department proposes to do to see that this malpractice of dividing the same employees into two categories, as regular employees of the company and employees of the contractors is removed. This is a general practice. This is a widespread malpractice. Will the Minister kindly answer both these questions?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: There are two types of employers. No doubt about it. As far as we are concerned, the hon. Member is correct. We hold the principal employer responsible. that responsibility is there. And it is precisely because of this reason that we have directed the Dun lop India Limited to exercise its power under Section 8 of the Employees Provident Fund Act to recover that money and that money has been recovered. There is no problem reparding this. The money is there and it is deposited with the bank. The only thing is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Employees are not getting it.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Regarding the cases which are still pending we cannot transfer that money from the bank to the Provident Fund Account. This is one thing. As far as the pending cases are concerned, I think the hon. Member is aware as to how the cases are fought in the Court. I have a long chronology of the dates of these cases.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What will you do to expedite the cases which have been pending during the last seven years?

SHRI P. A SANGMA: I may inform the House that today the High Court is giving a final hearing.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What have you been doing in the last seven years?

MR. CHAIRMAN: what have you been doing? How have you been approaching the Court?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: We have been fighting. We have been persuing the case with the Court. For one reason or the other, if the cases are adjourned and the next date is fixed, we have very little to say in that. As the honourable Member knows we all are experiencing difficulties. The cases are pending in court.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: We all know the problem of growing provident fund arrears. The arrears due from the employers amount to more than Rs. 228 crores. It is a good scheme that the honourable Minister has announced. The power that was given to the State Governments to recover the amount from the employers has been taken over by the Labour Ministry because of the difficulties involved. Now the employees' provident fund dues have been deposited in the bank. Now some of the employees, because they are the contractor's employees, go out of job. What remedy does the Minister have for the benefit of such employees who go out of job?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: What the honourable Member has said is very right. When somebody goes out of job, his accounts must be settled. But in this particular case we cannot do anything because we have not got the money; the High Court case is still pending. However, when such cases come to our notice, we shall certainly look into them.

Sustaining loss by Paradip Phosphate Ltd.

*404. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:†
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact thaat Paradip Phosphate Ltd., a joint venture of Government of India and Republic of Nauru has sustained a cumulative loss of Rs. 139 crores in five years of its commission;

(b) whether the reasons behind this loss has been enquired into and whether Go-

*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Pravat Kumar Samantaray.

vernment have received any complaint to that effect;

(c) if so, what are the findings of the enquiry; and

(d) if not, whether Government are proposing to enquire into the colosal loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The accumulated losses of Paradip Phosphates Limited (PPL.) as on 31-3-1991, were Rs. 125.03 crores. During 1988-89, however, PPL made a profit of Rs. 12.02 crores. During the current financial year, the provisional accounts for the first eight months show a profit of about Rs. 13.71 crores.

(b) Government have made an analysis of the losses and these are attributable mainly to the following factors:—

(i) Inadequate availability of Phosphoric acid and ammonia during the years 1987-88 to 1990-91.

(ii) Industrial unrest resulting in disruption of production.

(iii) Delayed completion of the project leading to a higher project cost and interest burden.

(c) and (d) Government have received complaints about certain irregularities in the working of the company including irregularities by individual staff members. The Central Bureau of Investigation and the Vigilance Department of PPL have taken up investigation into these irregularities. The services of two senior officials have been terminated.

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that the Minister has taken to the fancy of not giving correct answers in this House. I have noted it in respect of several questions which he has answered. Likewise in this question also he has tried to mislead the House and has made a mis-statement of facts before this House. One, I asked for the reasons for the loss incurred by Paradip Phosphate Ltd. In reply the Minister said, "Inadequate availability of phosphoric acid". During the five years of commissioning of Paradip Phosphaate Ltd., it was closed down only for 198 days for want of phosphoric acid. Then he said, "Industrial unrest". Out of a total of 1725 days there was industrial unrest only for 44 days. Third, "Delayed completion of the project leading to a higher project cost". Sir, the plant was commissioned two months prior to the target date, that is, on 1st August, 1986. In paras (c) and (d) the Minister said "Government have received complaint..." I would like to tell the honourable Minister that I was the complainant. And I would like to tell him that none of his agencies had ever inquired from me to put up the evidence and the documents on which I had relied. Now, would the Minister state whether it is a fact that during the year 1988-89 he made profits because the officers against whom I had made the allegations were brought back to Delhi, and that he started incurring losses again because he put those officers back in their place in 1989-90? If it is not a fact would be kindly tell us what the correct position is? Then I will ask my second supplementary.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: For the benefit of the House I would like to say that Paradip Phosphate Ltd. is a joint-venture project. The Indian Government and the Government of Nauru joined together and commissioned the project in 1986. The honourable Member is from that area. He is the leader of one union. There is another leader from the Communist Party of India, Mr. Lokanath Chowdhury, who is leading another organisation. In 1989 there was an industrial dispute. There was some problem from the General Manager (Finance) and also the workers of that area. Finally we terminated services of the General Manager (Finance) in 1990. After that, Samantarayji's organisation was derecognised during the then Janata Dal Government.

And there is a fight between him and Paradip Phosphate Ltd. He made a number of complaints in 1990. The Government ordered a CBI inquiry. Also, recently, immediately on seeing the Press clippings, we called for an inquiry and the Chief Vigilance Officer of the Department has gone there and taken all the records. We are investigating it and we will not spare anybody. Without any fear or favour, we will investigate it and we will see that if anybody is guilty anywhere, he is punished. We will punish him... (*Interruptions*)...

AN HON. MEMBER: Finish him?... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: I said, "punish him"... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether he has also received any complaints from the honourable Minister of State for Agriculture, Shri K. C. Lenka, with regard to the mismanagement at the top level in the Paradip Phosphates Ltd.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, for the benefit of the House, I would like to say a few words. The Government took over in the month of July. Before that, there were losses to the tune of Rs. 125 crores. During these six months, we have improved its position and we have brought it to a profit level of Rs. 13 crores for the current year and, today, the factory is running in a profitable condition. Lenkaji has written a letter. We are trying to investigate and find out and if there is mismanagement on the part of any officer or worker, we will not tolerate it and we will try to take severe action

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Sir, will the Minister assure us of a thorough investigation into the matter?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said that he would investigate... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, we will do a thorough investigation, but he is not giving us thorough information... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: We will give thorough information to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Sarada Mohanty.

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that in the Paradip Phosphates Ltd., furnace oil smuggling racket has been unearthed and, if so, what action has been taken by the Government against these smugglers.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, he is talking about some smuggling. I do not know what it is. If the honourable Member gives us the correct information, specific information, either in the House or in the form of a document, we will try to investigate it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Md. Salim.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम : महोदय, बहुत ही चतुराई के साथ यह जवाब तैयार किया गया है । मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि किसी को छोड़ेंगे नहीं, धांधली से । लेकिन जब यह जवाब तैयार कर रहे थे... (**व्यवधान**) जिन लोगों ने यह जवाब तैयार किया है, पता चलता है कि कुछ लोगों को यह गार्ड करने का रास्ता रखता है । स्कूल लेविल से सिखाया जाता है कि क्वेश्चन का आन्सर टु द प्वाइंट होना चाहिए । "बी" पार्ट का जो सवाल है उसका सेकेंड पार्ट है "व्हेदर गवर्नमेंट हैज रिसीव्ड एनी कंप्लेंट टु दैट इफेक्ट" । लेकिन "बी" पार्ट का जब जवाब दिया गया तो उसमें यह सवाल छुआ ही नहीं गया । "कोई कंप्लेंट किया गया है", उसमें एनेलिसिस दिखाये हैं कि लास का कारण क्या है । वे तीन कारण दिखाये हैं । जब "सी" पार्ट का जवाब दे रहा है तो "बी" पार्ट का आन्सर वहां घुसेड़ हैं, वहां दाखिल किये हैं कि हां वहां कंपलट मिला था । वह है, "इरेग्युलैरिटीज बाई इंडिवीजुअल स्टाफ मेम्बर्स" । जो "सी" पार्ट का जवाब है उसको "डी" में डाला है । "सी" पार्ट का सवाल है कि फाईंडिंग क्या है इन्क्वायरी की, उसको "डी"

पार्ट में डाला है। "डी" पार्ट का सवाल यह है कि फर्दर कोई इन्क्वायरी होगी या नहीं। लेकिन वे नहीं चाहते कि फर्दर कोई इन्क्वायरी हो। जो एनेलिसिस किया है आन द बेसिस आफ व्हाट में अगर "डी" का जवाब देते, सेकेंड पार्ट का तो उनको देना पड़ता कि इन्क्वायरी की बेसिस पर यह एनेलिसिस तैयार किया है। उसमें जो मिसमैनेजमेंट है, फाइनेंशियल इरेग्युलैरिटी है उसका वहां जवाब नहीं देना चाहते हैं। इसलिए दिखाया है कि इंडस्ट्रियल अनरेस्ट है फास्फोरिक एसिड नहीं मिलता है और डिलेड कंप्लीशन आफ प्रोजेक्ट है इसलिए इन कारणों से उनको नुकसान हुआ है, जबकि मैनेजमेंट के अंदर जो इरेग्युलेरिटी है, जो धांधली है फरनेस आयल को लेकर और डैमरेज चार्जेज को लेकर बहुत से सवालात उठाये गये हैं। मैं उनको दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूं।

हमारा सवाल यह है कि क्या वह यह एश्योरेंस हाउस को देंगे कि जो नुकसान हुआ है--अभी वे कहते हैं कि 8 महीने में फायदा हो रहा है मतलब अगर चल सकता है तो इसको फायदे में ले आया जा सकता है लेकिन जो 125 करोड़ का नुकसान हुआ है इसके लिए जिम्मेदार लोगों को ढूंढकर निकालने के लिए कुछ करेंगे, दूसरा कौन से कारण हैं। महोदय, यह मैं इसलिए पूछ रहा हूं कि पब्लिक सेक्टर युनिट्स, स्टेट ओन्ड युनिटस का यही सवाल है कि अगर इनको आप छोड़ देंगे मैनेजमेंट को कुछ लोगों के हाथ में और मंत्री महोदय और डिपार्टमेंट उनको गार्ड करेंगे तो फिर पब्लिक सेक्टर्स को आप कभी प्राफिटेबल नहीं कर पाएंगे। इसके लिए आप फर्दर इन्क्वायरी करेंगे, यह हमारा सवाल है। यह एश्योरेंस मैं मांगता हूं।

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, I have recently visited Paradip Phosphates Ltd. I have gone round the Factory. I met all the labour leaders there. I will be guided not only by the Department but also by the people. For tht information of the hon. Member, I may state that the Factory made a profit between 1988-89 of about Rs. 12 crores. After that, there are a number of reasons. We cannot blame one factor. All people are working for the benefit of the public sector. And there a number of things have happened. Phosphoric acid supplies were delayed by the previous Government between April and September. And there was industrial unrest. The workers stopped working. They stopped doing their duties. It was there for one and a half months. Not only this. A number of things happened about which I will write to the hon. Member. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I would like to know if any officers have been employed from the Government of Nauru. And, then, in a joint venture if there are losses these are to be shared by both. I would like o know if the Government of Nauru have shared any losses. If so, how much?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: I have already stated that the accumulated losses were Rs. 125 crores and now Paradip Phosphates Ltd. is making a profit and the Government of Nauru wants to withdraw on the basis of the earlier losses. They have written a letter, and we are processing the letter. At present I cannot say anything. At the appropriate time I will give it.

SHRI SOM PAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, my information is that the Nauru Government have made a fresh offer to the Government of India to supply rock phosphate. The Minister states that for want of rock phosphate they want to withdraw from the project. Is it a fact that you are considering the fresh proposal for supplies of rock phosphate from Nauru? If it is so, then what is the reason for their withdrawal from the project?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: This will be attended to by the Ministry of Commerce and the MMTC. I do not have any immediate information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.